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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,253	07/09/2001	Michelle Zhao	03226.534001;P6053	8276

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EXAMINER

DERWICH, KRISTIN M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2132

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/902,253

Applicant(s)

ZHAO, MICHELLE

Examiner

Kristin Derwich

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12 and 14-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6, 13, 17 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 6, 13, 17 and 18 are cancelled. Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-16 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 11, 2005 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

2. Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perlman, U.S. Patent Number 5,687,235 in view of Curry et al. (Curry), U.S. Patent Number 6,128,740.

Regarding claims 1 and 9, Curry substantially teaches a method of creating a digital CRL comprising creating a plurality of delta CRLs from multiple generations of CRLs wherein the plurality of delta CRLs comprise a list of digital certificates with a status of satisfying at least one inactive criterion, wherein said status has changed since the latest owned CRL (3:32-39, wherein a plurality of delta CRLs or segmented CRLs are created and stored in the repository); merging the plurality of delta CRLs by a sender to create a single merged delta CRL (3:66-4:5;

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4:46-67 when the CRL generator generates a single CRL from the repository, the delta/segmented CRLs are merged into one); and publishing the single merged delta CRL by the sender to the CRL recipient after merging the plurality of delta CRLs (3:32-39;7:46-59). Curry fails to teach determining a latest owned CRL, receiving a request for a CRL and sending the CRL to the sender. However, Perlman discloses a method of creating a digital CRL comprising determining a latest owned CRL stored by a CRL recipient (see column 8, lines 61-64); receiving a request for a CRL, the request including an indication of a latest owned CRL (see column 8, lines 61-64); and sending the delta CRL to the CRL recipient (see column 8, lines 64-66).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the inventions of Curry and Perlman because Curry's on-demand publication of CRL's improves the efficiency with which a CRL is published (2:42-49) and in order to improve the efficiency with which they are published a more efficient means of revoking the certificates such as that described by Perlman (3:18-27).

Regarding claim 2, Perlman further discloses the request to include an indication of the latest owned CRL, determined by examining the request (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8).

With regard to claims 3 and 10, Perlman further discloses the CRLs in his method to be consistent with X.509, which presents the ASN.1 format (see column 2, lines 59-62; ITU-T Recommendation X.509).

With regard to claims 4 and 11, Perlman further discloses comparing entries in the latest owned CRL with a current CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8).

With regard to claims 5 and 12, Perlman further discloses querying a database for entries spanning the latest owned CRL and a current CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8; column 6, lines 22-29, "RS accesses the CRL storage facility to retrieve selected revoked certificate numbers [...] based on parameters provided by that principal"; claims 1 and 11).

Regarding claims 6 and 13, Perlman further discloses merging data from a plurality of delta CRLs spanning from the latest owned CRL to a current CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8; column 9, lines 18-32; claim 11).

Regarding claims 7 and 14, Perlman further discloses applying a digital signature (see column 6, lines 54-56; claim 10).

Regarding claims 8 and 15, Perlman further discloses creating a CRL via a programmed processor with instructions from an electronic storage medium (see column 5, lines 13-30 and lines 42-49).

With regard to claim 16, Perlman further discloses sending the CRL as a reply over an electronic communication medium (see column 3, lines 29-37; abstract; claim 8).

With regard to claim 17, Perlman further discloses a data structure stored on computer readable storage medium for a CRL (see column 5, lines 13-30) comprising a CRL identifier (see column 3, lines 45-48), wherein the CRL is formatted as a delta CRL (see column 8, line 56 - column 9, line 8). Regarding the limitation of a list of digital certificates representing changes to a CRL that have occurred since generation of at least two additional CRLs, Perlman cites the prior art in which multiple (at least two) CRLs are generated progressively over the course of time (see column 3, lines 10-17). Perlman then proceeds to disclose his improvement to incorporate all changes from the latest owned CRL up to the current CRL, matching the updated

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state suggested by the prior art (see column 9, lines 18-32). Thus it is inherent that the delta CRL disclosed by Perlman represents changes to a CRL that have occurred since generation of a least two CRLs.

With regard to claim 18, Perlman further discloses a serial number as an identifier (see column 3, lines 45-48), "serial" being defined as in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary: "appearing in successive parts or numbers", and in the Microsoft Computer Dictionary: "one by one".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kristin Derwich whose telephone number is 571-272-7958. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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Examiner
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